



# Redeemer Review

## The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer

### March, 2007

#### From the Vicar

#### An Invitation to the One Earth Lent

It's Lent again and time to write you yet another note about this most holy, and for many of us, most difficult, season in the church year. Lent just palpitates with expectation: giving up something we like, living a more disciplined life, spending more time in prayer and study, and who needs to do more when already there are not enough hours in the day?

First, then the good news. The word Lent comes from the same root as lengthen. Even though it is a moveable season, it always happens in February and March, the time when light is so clearly returning after the dark months of December and January. The very promise of early spring is that there is more time. Lent happens as nature is growing: daffodils are bursting through the soil, plum trees and acacias and tulips are opening their blooms; new leaves unfurl their shiny skins. The birds awaken the dawn with their mating songs and build their nests. In nature, early spring is all about potential, the work in progress, not the fruits of our labor.

Growing has never been easy, however. If you ever were a teenaged boy or the mother of one, you will recall those physical growing pains that plagued the body during adolescence. To be a seed breaking apart and germinating, a chick pecking its way out of an egg, a mother giving birth, a student struggling with new concepts, an athlete training to run the marathon or the Iditarod, or a restless soul seeking the peace of God, - all these take work. One of the reasons I love Lent is that it gives me a finite space within which to practice my own growing edges.

At Redeemer this year, we will engage corporately with the question of what can **one** church do in the face of our mounting environmental and ecological crisis. Put in such stark words, it seems almost too big to take on, but as Jesus said about some camels and the eye of a needle, **with God, all things are possible**. I believe that. I also believe that the best way to take on big questions is right here in the neighborhood, so our Lenten series in this **One Earth Year** is all about local conservation. We've got great speakers lined up and I think you'll feel really jazzed when you discover just how much each one of us can do. On Sundays, to carry the One Earth theme into the heart of prayer, we will be using Eucharistic Prayer C, which incorporates hymns to creation. Also, watch for some new music which we will be learning together.

Finally, as promised, I'm posting my Lenten meditations on my new blog, "God's Sled Dog". You can get to it through our website and you can write responses by clicking the word "comments" at the end of the post. All views are welcome and loved. A blessed Lent to each and every one of you.

Blessings,

*Rev. Carol +*

**SPECIAL SERVICES DURING LENT:**

**COMMUTER COMMUNION**

Every Wednesday during Lent, we'll begin the day at 6:30 a.m. with communion and pray for everyone in our Redeemer family. You'll be out by 7 a.m. and blessed to the souls of your feet.

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**Coming in March: An Inquirers' Class**

DO I HAVE TO BELIEVE IN THE VIRGIN BIRTH TO BE A CHRISTIAN? IS THE SECOND COMING TO BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY? WHAT ABOUT ALL THIS RESURRECTION STUFF? IS GOD A HEAVENLY POTTER AND ME A LUMP OF CLAY?

Have you ever asked questions about religion? Are you perplexed? Wonder what all the spiritual brouhaha is all about? Why is the Episcopal Church special? What is the authority of the Bible? Can an ancient faith fill the modern void? Does faith really inspire violence? What about science? Can I seriously believe in God when we know that the universe began with a Big Bang? There is no question you cannot ask at our upcoming INQUIRERS' CLASS.

For six Sunday afternoons in March and April, we'll gather here at the church between 1:30 and 2:30 and have a conversation about our faith and our doubt. We'll share the religions of our childhoods and our adult paths. We'll look at the three legged stool of the Episcopal Church: scripture, tradition and reason. JOIN US!

Dates are March 4, March 11, March 18, April 1, April 15, April 22.

**CONGREGATIONAL CYCLE OF PRAYER**

**March 4:** On this Second Sunday of the One Earth Lent, remembering that Abraham was a sojourner in the land, we pray for all who have been displaced by war and economic catastrophe and forced to wander in search of home and safety. As we remember the refugees of today we also remember that our own ancestors were themselves sojourners once who found in this place their own Promised Land.

**March 11:** On this Third Sunday of the One Earth Lent, we stand with Moses in the place beyond the wilderness where the bush burned and was not consumed. We humbly remember that in the natural world, nothing is ever consumed, only transformed. We are sorry for all that we have wasted, and in the light of the burning bush, ask God's help in transforming it into new life.

**March 18:** On this Fourth Sunday of the One Earth Lent, we give thanks for all of the riches that God has so freely bestowed upon all of us.

**March 25:** On this Fifth Sunday of the One Earth Lent, we remember that God, who brings living waters into the desert, is not just the God of people, but of all life, the jackal and the ostrich, the lion and the lamb. We pray for the world's waters, for melting glaciers and silting dams, for the people whose lives depend upon rivers, that our rivers may always flow with grace and health into the sea.

**April 1:** On this Sunday of the Passion, we place our hope in the coming of Christ, in his teachings, in his courage. May we learn with time to see the radiance of life that shines within the darkness of death and the cross.

**April 8:** On this Easter Sunday we rejoice that the Angel of Death has passed over us and left us whole. Help us to see the risen Jesus with as much wonder and surprise as his astonished disciples were when they arrived at the tomb to mourn and were instead met by angels.

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS



### **THE ONE EARTH LENT Community Programs about the Local Environment**

Offered at the Church of the Redeemer  
123 Knight Drive in San Rafael

March 7, 14 and 21, 2007  
7-8 pm

#### ***Come Join Us and Learn about Local Efforts to Protect and Care for Our Earth***

March 7: **REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE**  
A Chat with Joe Garbarino. Joe is well known as the founder of Marin Recycling Center, one of the most innovative places of its kind. Learn some surprising and hopeful things from the Pro!

March 14: **GREENING YOUR HOME**  
With Mary Bryan, Environmental Engineer. Learn some easy ways to make your life both comfortable and easier on Mother Earth.

March 21: **LIVING WATERS**  
An Evening about our Creeks and Streams with Naturalist Megan Isadore from Salmon Protection and Watershed Network (SPAWN). Water is the lifeblood of the earth. Come and learn about efforts to renew our local streams and bring back the salmon.

#### **OTHER ONE EARTH LINKS:**

Check how many earths it would take if everyone lived like you! You can calculate your personal global footprint at:

[www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp](http://www.earthday.net/footprint/index.asp)

The rest of the earthday.net website has interesting videos, sermons and links to all kinds of organizations that are working together to save our beautiful earth.

Like to read? There are many books about climate change and the environment. *An Inconvenient Truth* and *World Changing: A User's Guide to the Twenty First Century* are some of the most pictorial. *World Changing* has a fun website:

[www.worldchanging.com](http://www.worldchanging.com)

My personal favorite may have the duller of all titles, but it's a great piece of earth and animal advocacy. It's called *Redeeming Creation: The Biblical Basis of Environmental Stewardship* and it's written by four science professors at Evangelical colleges, Fred Van Dyke, David C. Mahan, Joseph K. Sheldon, and Raymond H. Brand.

Wilderness writers are also a source of great inspiration. Anything by Wendell Berry, or Bill McKibbin is terrific.

Terry Tempest Williams' book *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place* shocked the reading world by showing that Nevada nuclear testing was giving women in Utah cancer even as she wrote one of the most lyrical portraits of the Great Salt Lake I've ever read.

Barry Lopez' *Arctic Dreams* and Lois Criswell's *Arctic Wild* (about a woman who lived with wolves) were how I fell in love with Alaska and the possibility of an unspoiled earth. Even the Great Basin has its poet: Stephen Trimble's *The Sagebrush Ocean* is an amazing look at the Nevada desert most of us drive through so quickly. Religious writer Kathleen Norris' *Dakota: A Spiritual Geography* is a classic of how living on the land heals the soul.

Saving the earth is not an abstract project. It's about local communities. It's about love. It's about us.

**HOLY WEEK AND EASTER AT  
REDEEMER**

Between April 1 and April 8<sup>th</sup> we observe the holiest of the mysteries of the Church. Each year is the same. Each year is amazingly different. Here is the schedule. Hope to see you all there.

April 1: Sunday of the Passion: Palm Sunday:

Procession of Palms at Both Services; Dramatic Reading of the Gospel at 10:30.



April 5: Maundy Thursday

Stripping of the Altar and Silent Vigil, 7 p.m. This is a powerful and moving service appropriate for grades 3 and up. Many churches observe the feast with a Passover dinner. If we find that we are called to do this during Lent, we will.

April 6: Good Friday

The Church will open at 9 a.m. to continue the silent prayer vigil before the cross. At Noon we will gather for the three hour service of Lessons and Carols before the cross.

April 7: Holy Saturday:

9 a.m. Traditional service of prayer with the Altar Guild. The Most Sacred Liturgy of Sprucing up the Grounds: ALL ARE STRONGLY URGED TO ATTEND!

April 8: Easter Sunday: Feast of the  
Resurrection

- 9:15 Kids' Church
- 10:00 EASTER EGG HUNT and Coffee Hour
- 10:45 Festive Eucharist

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**OUR PICK UP CHOIR IS BACK FOR  
EASTER!**

Join us as we warm up our voices for the Easter Celebration! Rehearsals are Thursday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, Thursday, March 29<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. I look forward to singing with you!

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**NEW AT REDEEMER: Healing Mondays**

Recently at Kids' Church, I found myself deep in prayer for our many friends and family members who are facing life threatening illnesses. I'm still praying, but beginning March 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. and on every Monday thereafter I will open the church for a formal hour of healing prayer. If you or someone you love wants to be prayed for, please put the names into our prayer basket. Or, you may come and pray with me or have laying on of hands for yourself or another. If no one shows up, you will still know that for that one hour I will be doing nothing but praying for healing. This is a totally spontaneous and spirit filled ministry for those who feel called to the ministry of healing prayer, whether for an hour, a week, a month or forever.





## SAINTS AND ANGELS

We give thanks for these parishioners who have given of their time, treasure and talents:

**THANKS TO OUR NEW FACILITIES AND GROWTH COMMITTEES**, including: Kim Johnson, Jay Luther, Gail Spencer, Nancy Ware, Sallie Wood, Sally Garbarino, Mary Sparks, Victor Chiarolla, Cindy Poulos, Laura Skubecz, and Sue Clark.

**THANKS TO** Liz Chiarolla, Kim Johnson and Mary Sparks for their work on publicity for Chinese New Year and the One Earth Project.

**THANKS TO** John Chung for organizing a New Year's Celebration that lifted our spirits to the skies! Thanks also to all who helped: Liz and Victor Chiarolla, Linda and Jim Fox, Elliott and Liesje Blank, Cindy Poulos, Kelly Mason and Jessica Luiz, Eileen Erler, Betsy and Jon Nakamura, Rick and Laura Skubecz, and Joe and Sally Garbarino. **AND THANKS ALSO TO** the Redeemer Preschool, and the Fox and Chung Families for sponsoring the Acrobats and Lion Dancers.

**THANKS TO** Nick Clark and Jim Providenza for removing the hazardous parking blocks from the preschool lot.

**THANKS TO** Sue Clark and Linda Fox for their help in the garden.

**THANKS TO** Cindy Smith - for labeling and mailing our newsletters and for purchasing all our coffee and paper supplies **each and every month!**

## WEDNESDAY'S WOMEN'S BOOKCLUB

The hostess provides drinks and dessert.  
**Attendees should bring a sandwich and  
RSVP to the hostess each month.**

**March 14<sup>th</sup>:** *The Memory Keeper's Daughter* by Kim Edwards; at Sydney Kennedy's home (454-0526) at noon.

**April 11<sup>th</sup>:** *The History of Love*, by Nicole Krauss; at Cathy Kirk's home (457-3841) at noon.

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### Treasurer's Report

Here, from Linda Fox is an update on the church's finances since her report last month:

#### Finance Report

	2006	2007
# of Pledges	41	45
\$ Income	108,000	98,800

Of the \$108,000 received in 2006, \$4,200 was from individuals who generously gave more than their pledged amount.

The 2007 figures are as of February 23, 2007. The pledged amount is 99% of the 2007 budget for pledges! Thanks to all who have pledged for 2007!

#### Budget Summary

	2006 Actual	2007 Projected
Operating Expense	\$132,679	\$140,813
Net Income	5,770	(12,043)

The projected 2007 operating expenses includes a diocesan mandated salary increase of \$3,300 and a \$4,187 diocesan assessment increase.

The projected net income for 2007 includes pledges: \$100,000; plate (i.e., cash, [not pledged,] given during the services): \$10,000; fundraisers: \$13,000. This totals \$123,000, which when added to the \$5,770 net gain for 2006, results in a deficit of \$12,043.



**REDEEMER FILM FESTIVAL**

This month's movie is *Groundhog Day* featuring Bill Murray, Andie McDowell and [Punxsutawney Phil](#). It's earthy and spiritual, perfect fare for the One Earth Season and rated PG. Join us Friday night, March 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00!



**IN MARCH:**

- 1 Gigi Meyers
- 2 Lauren Ware Shepard '95
- 4 Carly Jackson Clark
- 5 Erika Johnson '97
- 6 Larry Reisinger
- 6 Pam Crosby '94
- 7 Nick Minton
- 11 Justin Johnson
- 12 Sophia Ellingson-Moody '96
- 13 Claire Poulos '93
- 14 Mark Moody
- 18 Betsy Nakamura
- 19 A. J. Meyers '98
- 22 Eileen Erler
- 20 Allison Curtis '91
- 28 Chris Burton '91
- 28 Casey Jereb '94

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**REDEEMER YOUTH ARE FASTING SO THAT HUNGRY CHILDREN MIGHT LIVE!**

Keep your eyes and ears open for news of Redeemer's 30 Hour Famine Fundraiser for World Vision. We will be asking you to sponsor us as we go without so that the poorest of the world's poor might live. All money raised goes to end world hunger.

Famine Dates: April 21-22, 2007

For more info, go to the website at

<http://www.30hourfamine.org>



**MARCH ANNIVERSARIES:**

- 17 Jack & Betty Baird - 1946

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A note from the editor – (Cathy Kirk)

Would you be interested in receiving the *Redeemer Review* by e-mail instead of snail-mail? If so, please drop me a note by e-mail, - [kindel.odie@comcast.net](mailto:kindel.odie@comcast.net) - and I will switch you over. This is a great way to see all the graphics in COLOR (!) and will, of course, cut back on our printing and mailing expenses.





**MAKE A FRIEND, BE A FRIEND, BRING  
A FRIEND TO CURSILLO!**

**Marin Men's Weekend**  
Tom Egan, Rector  
March 8-11, 2007

**Marin Women's Weekend**  
Meredith Burrell, Rectora  
March 22 - 25, 2007

See Elliott and Liesje Blank, Cathy and Wayne Kirk, Jim Providenza, Terri Leinsteiner, Jay and Carol Luther, Jay and Maureen Wayne, John and Joan Westmoreland for more information on this wonderful, heart-filled weekend of joy in Jesus!

**The Episcopal Church of the Redeemer**  
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Vicar	Rev. Carol Luther	456-0508
Sr. Warden	Sue Clark	454-4115
Jr. Warden	John Chung	453-8244
Clerk	Betsy Nakamura	459-4525
Treasurer	Linda Fox	453-9412
Altar Guild	Barbara Smilie	457-6021
Musician	Jay Wayne	897-0221
Newsletter	Cathy Kirk	457-3841

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Please note that the deadline for the April *Redeemer Review* is Monday, March 26th.

Any submissions after that date *might not* be included!

Please e-mail your news to me at:

[kindel.odie@comcast.net](mailto:kindel.odie@comcast.net)

**REDEEMER SERVICE CALENDAR**  
**SUNDAY SERVICES**

9:15 Kids' Church for children and their families  
10:30 Holy Communion with music

Healing prayers are offered at the left hand of the altar rail at the end of each service

**WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY 10:30-NOON**